

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
Brigham City, UT
Waterbird/Raptor Survey
10/30/06

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Total number of ducks around 245,000 (190,000 dabblers and 50,000 divers). This is right around the long-term average of 237,000 for this week in October. The number of divers utilizing the Refuge continues to be high. About triple the long-term average. Total number of shorebirds around 10,000 which is also about triple the long-term average.

Aerial Tundra swan count conducted by the UT Division of Wildlife Resources (10/31/06) was 40,000 with the majority being divided between Unit 1 on the Refuge and the adjacent Bear River Club. All time high count of greater yellowlegs and high monthly count of Northern Harriers. 13% of birds were observed from the Tour Loop and 5% from the hunt units.

Marbled Godwit update: Bert/a is still down on the Baja Peninsula moving around in the same estuary complex it arrived at in late August. Sassy was confirmed dead near Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area in Saskatchewan, Canada. The other two un-named Magos that received transmitters in August have been experiencing technical difficulties. The batteries aren't recharging enough to send out location information. I did however, see one when out surveying last Friday so at least 1 is still here. We now have a web site to check their progress.
<http://www.fort.usgs.gov/Resources/GoGodwits/>

Canada Goose	2188
Mallard	35663
Northern Pintail	52178
Green-winged Teal	16059
Northern Shoveler	30562
Gadwall	20879
A. Wigeon	37198
Unk. Dabbler	250
Canvasback	30485
Redhead	3415
Scaup	1597
Bufflehead	2729
Ring-necked Duck	3
Ruddy Duck	11439
Pied-billed Grebe	7
Eared Grebe	8
Western Grebe	35
Clark's Grebe	22
A.W. Pelican	82
DC Cormorant	51
GB Heron	60
Am. Avocet	5272
Greater Yellowlegs	648
Marbled Godwit	2492
Dowitcher	1501
Bonaparte's Gull	365
RB Gull	1307

California Gull	16
Virginia Rail	1
Coot	10682
Northern Harrier	50

Bridget Olson
 Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
 Wildlife Biologist
 2155 West Forest St.
 Brigham City, UT 84302
 Phone: 435/734-6433

Table 1. Aerial swan surveys of the Great Salt Lake, Utah - 2006-2007.							
	Sept 26	Oct 3	Oct 10	Oct 17	Oct 24	Oct 31	Nov
S. Shore Clubs	NS	NS				29	
Farmington Bay							
Layton-Kaysville							
Howard Slough							
Ogden Bay						16	
Harold Crane						18	
Willard Spur/BRR below D Line			22		80	206	
Bear River Refuge							
Unit 1					8,552	13,535	
Unit 2						1,417	
Unit 3					6	7	
Unit 4					1,043	12	
Unit 5						25	
Bear River/Davis Club				89	6,569	23,147	
Chesapeake Club & Vicinity						12	
Public Shooting Grounds					24	1,650	
Salt Creek/Sage Brush Club						58	
Promontory/WBRB							
TOTAL	0	0	22	89	16,274	40,132	0